194 4481. de 15

MEMOIRS

OF THE LIFE

OF THE

REV. Mr. JOSEPH ALLEINE,

Extracted from the larger Account printed in 1677.

IN the year 1663, Mr. *Joseph Alleine* was born at the *Devizes* in *Wiltshire*: He was the son of a godly father, Mr. Tobias *Alleine*, a signally humble and experienced Christian, who died suddenly, but sweetly, not above a year or two before his excellent son.

This our author appeared to have a very serious sense of religion at eleven years of age, he earnestly desired to be brought up in preparation for the Ministry, which good motion his father gladly hearkened to, and speedily prepared to put in execution. Such was his great diligence at school, that he redeemed for his

book the time allotted for recreation. In the ſpace of about four years he attained to a very good knowledge in the *Latin* and *Greek* tongues, and was by his maſter judged fit for univerſity ſtudies; after which he abode ſome time with his father in the country, where a worthy Miniſter of the *Devizes* read logick to him; and when he was ſixteen years old, he was placed at *Lincoln*-College, in *Oxford*, in 1649 or 1650.

He had not been long in the Univerſity before a *Wiltſhire*-place becoming vacant in *Corpus Chriſti* college, he was choſen ſcholar of that houſe, the pregnancy of his parts aſſuring all that his own merits were the ſole friends, the only *Mandamus*, which brought him in. Being entered and ſettled, he gave both early and conſtant proofs of his indefatigable induſtry: he well underſtood how baſe and contemptible it was to live in a ſchool of learning, no otherwiſe than as if it was a ſanctuary for lazineſs, or a place privileged with nothing elſe but leave and opportunity to eat the founder's bread; and with no other ſweat of the brow than what is provoked or excited in a tenniſ-court.

He ſtudied at *Oxford* five years, and in the year 1655, about the twenty-firſt year of his age, he left the college and became aſſiſtant preacher to the Rev. Mr. *George Newton*, at *Taunton*, in *Somerſetſhire*.

Mr. *Newton* writes thus of him, in the memoirs of his life. "I ſoon obſerved him to be a young man of ſingular accompliſhments natural and acquired. His intellectual powers ſolid, his memory ſtrong, his affections lively, his learning much beyond the ordinary ſize;

ſize; and above all his holineſs eminent, his converſation exemplary. In brief, he had a good head, and a better heart."

How he ſpent his time in public and private, and with what indefatigable zeal he ſerved our Lord *Jeſus Chriſt* in the miniſtry, may be ſeen at large in the account of his life and death, drawn up by his friends, 12mo. 1677, which I hope to ſee reprinted, with his excellent letters, written in priſon, to his beloved friends and flock at *Taunton*.

In the year 1662, before the black Bartholomew day came, he would often ſay, " If it pleaſed the Lord to grant him three months liberty before he went to priſon, he ſhould account himſelf favoured by him, and would with more chearfulneſs go when he had done ſome work."

It pleaſed the Lord to indulge him, that he went on in his work from Bartholomew day, till May 26, 1663. The account of his impriſonment, ſee in that part of his life written by his wife, Mrs. *Theodoſia Alleine* (daughter of the Rev. Mr. *Richard Alleine*) chap. vi. p. 62—72.

In *Ilcheſter* jail, *Somerſetſhire*, he wrote his moſt ſpiritual and animating letters to his people, which are printed at the end of his life.

In the ſame priſon he wrote his excellent little book, intitled. *A Call to Archippus*, to excite miniſters to zeal diligence and courage in their maſter's work: I wiſh it was reprinted.

In priſon he wrote his *Expoſition of the Aſſembly's*

Shorter Catechiſm, which was printed with rules for daily examination.

But, above all, in that jail he wrote this glorious *Synopſis of the Covenant of Grace*, or, *The Voice of the Lord in his Promiſes*, to which he prefixed the *Voice of the Herald*, and to which he ſubjoined the *Voice of the Redeemed*; all which you have now in your hands.

He alſo added a moſt rich and copious meditation, intitled, *A Soliloquy, repreſenting the Believer's Triumph in God's Covenant, and the various Conflicts and glorious Conqueſt of Faith over Unbelief.* This is lately reprinted in a pamphlet price 6d.

Theſe precious and moſt comfortable pieces were ſent from jail to his beloved flock at *Taunton*, and were both printed in the year 1666, and inſerted in a book written by his father in law, Mr. *Richard Alleine*, entitled; *Heaven opened*; or *A brief and plain Diſcovery of the Riches of God's Covenant of Grace, being the Third Part of Vindiciæ Pietatis, by* R. A. *London, Printed Anno* 1666. Our dear and excellent Mr *Joſeph Alleine* died at *Bath*, on *Saturday*, *November* the 7th, at ſix o' clock in the evening, 1668, in the 35th year of his age.

His *Alarm to the Unconverted*, is known through the three kingdoms, and will, in all probability, be read while there is a living Chriſtian in the *Britiſh* Nation.

The deſign of printing this, is to advance the glory of the rich and abundant Grace of God, through the blood and righteouſneſs of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to promote the holineſs and comfort of the people of God, to whom I am more immediately related, and whoſe eternal intereſts I have deeply at heart.

THE
VOICE OF THE HERALD,
TO COMMAND
SILENCE AND ATTENTION
TO THE
VOICE OF GOD.

O! all ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth; come ſee, and hear; gather yourſelves together unto the Proclamation of the GREAT KING. Hear, ye that are far off, and ye that are near: he that hath an ear to hear let him hear; I am the voice of one crying in the wilderneſs, prepare ye the way of the Lord. Let every valley be exalted, and every mountain be made low, for the glory of the Lord is to be revealed. Go thorough, go thorough the gates, prepare the way: caſt up, caſt up the highway; gather out the ſtones, lift up the ſtandard for the people, for the Lord proclaimeth ſalvation to the ends of the earth; tidings, tidings, O ye captives, hear all ye that look for ſalvation in *Iſrael*; behold, I bring ye glad tidings of great joy which

ſhall

ſhall be unto all people. Bleſſed news!. prepare your ears and hearts; the Lord hath commanded me, ſaying, go unto the people, and ſanctify them, let them waſh and be ready, for the Lord is coming down upon mount *Sion*, in the ſight of all nations, not in earthquakes and fires, not in clouds and darkneſs, not in thundrings and burnings, rending the mountains, and breaking the rocks in peices: He ſpeaks not to ye out of the blackneſs and darkneſs and tempeſt; ye ſhall ſay no more, " let not God ſpeak to us, leſt we die; " He cometh peaceably; the law of kindneſs is in his mouth, He preacheth peace, peace to him that is afar off, and to him that is near.

Behold! how He cometh, leaping upon the mountains, He hath paſſed mount *Ebal*, no more wrath or curſing; He is come to mount *Gerizim*, where He ſtandeth to bleſs the people; as *Mordecai* to his nation He writeth the words of truth and peace, ſeeking the welfare of his people, and ſpeaking peace to all his ſeed.

Behold! how He cometh, cloathed with flames of love, with bowels of compaſſion, plenteous redemption and multiplied pardons. O how pregnant is his love! O the rollings of his bowels! O how full are his breaſts, even aching till they are eaſed by the ſucking of his hungry children! Hearken therefore, O ye children, hearken to me. To you it is commanded, O people, nations and languages, that at what time ye hear the joyful ſound, the trump of *Jubilee*, the tidings of peace in the voice of the everlaſting goſ-

pel

pel, that ye fall down before the throne, and worſhip Him that liveth for ever and ever.

Ariſe, and come away; prepare, prepare ye; hear not with an uncircumciſed ear; ye are not upon a common thing. Behold the throne is ſet, the throne of grace, where majeſty and mercy dwell together: from thence will the Lord meet ye, from thence will he commune with ye, from the mercy-ſeat, from between the Cherubims, upon the Ark of the teſtimony. Lo! the Lord cometh out of his pavilion, the Mighty God from Sion, SELAH. His glory covereth the heavens, the earth is full of his praiſe. A fire of love goeth before Him, mercy and truth are round about Him, righteouſneſs and peace are the habitation of his throne; He rideth on his horſes and chariots of ſalvation, the covenant of life, and peace is in his mouth.

Rejoice ye heavens, make a chearful noiſe to the Lord of all the earth. Let the ſea roar, the floods clap their hands, and the multitudes of the iſles rejoice. Stand forth the hoſt of heaven, prepare your harps, caſt down your crowns, be ready with your trumpets, bring forth your golden vials full of odors, for our voices will jar, our ſtrings will break, we cannot reach the note of our Maker's praiſe.

Yet let them that dwell in the duſt ariſe and ſing. Bear your part in this glorious ſervice, but conſider and attend. Call out your ſouls and all that is within ye. Lift up your voices, fix your eyes, enlarge your hearts, exert all their powers; there is work

for

for them all. Be intent and ſerious, ye cannot ſtrain too high. Come forth ye graces, beſet the way, be all in readineſs. Stand forth faith and hope; flame O love, come ye warm deſires, and break with longing: let fear, with all veneration, do it's obeiſance. Joy prepare thy ſongs, call up all the daughters of muſick, to ſalute the Lord as He paſſeth by. Let the generations of the ſaints appear, and ſpread the way with boughs and garments of ſalvation, and ſongs of deliverance, Deut. xxix. 10. &c. 'Ye ſtand this day all of ye before the Lord your God, your captains, your elders, your officers, with all the men of Iſrael, your little ones, your wives and the ſtranger that is within thy camp, from the hewer of wood, to the drawer of water, that thou ſhouldeſt enter into covenant with the Lord thy God, and into his oath, which the Lord thy God maketh with thee this day: that He may eſtabliſh thee to day for a people unto Himſelf, and that He may be unto thee a God, as He hath ſaid unto thee, and as He hath ſworn.'

I have done my errand. The meſſenger of the morning diſappeareth, when the orient Sun cometh forth out of his chambers I vaniſh. I put my mouth in the duſt. The voice of the Lord! The ſoft and ſtill voice! O my ſoul, wrap thy face in the mantle, and bow thyſelf to the ground, and put thee in the clift of the Rock, while JEHOVAH proclaimeth his Name, and maketh all his goodneſs to paſs before thee.

THE

THE VOICE OF GOD. IN THE PROMISES.

HEAR, O ye ends of the earth, the Mighty God, the Lord hath ſpoken: gather my ſaints unto me, thoſe that have made a covenant with me by ſacrifice. Behold I eſtabliſh my covenant between me, and you. By my holineſs have I ſworn, that I will be your covenant-friend. I lift up my hand to heaven, I ſwear I live for ever; and becauſe I live, ye ſhall live alſo. I will be yours: yours to all intents and purpoſes; your refuge and your reſt; your patron and your portion; your heritage and your hope; your God and your guide. While I have ye ſhall never want; and what I am to myſelf I will be to ye. And ye ſhall be my people, a *choſen* generation, a kingdom of prieſts, an

holy nation, a peculiar treaſure unto me above all people. I call heaven and earth to witneſs this day, that I take ye for mine for *ever*. My Name ſhall be upon ye, and ye ſhall be pillars in the temple of God, and ſhall go no more out.

My livery ſhall ye wear, and the ſtamp of my own face ſhall ye carry; and I will make ye my witneſs and the epiſtles of Chriſt unto the world, and ye ſhall be *choſen* veſſels, to bear my name before the ſons of men. And that ye may ſee that I am in earneſt with ye, lo, I make with ye an *Everlaſting* covenant, ordered in all things, and ſure; and do here ſolemnly deliver it to ye as my act and deed, ſealed with ſacred blood, and ratified with the oath of a God; a God that cannot lie, that knows no place for repentance. Come, ye bleſſed, receive the inſtruments of your ſalvation: take the writings, behold the ſeals; here are the conveyances of the kingdom. Fear not, the donation is free and full. See it is written in blood, founded on the all-ſufficient merits of your ſurety, in whom I am well pleaſed, whoſe death makes this teſtament unchangeable for ever; ſo that your names can never be put out, nor your inheritance alienated, nor your legacies diminiſhed; nothing may be altered, nothing added, nothing ſubſtracted, no, not for ever. Happy art thou, O Iſrael! Who is like unto thee, O people! Only believe, and know your own bleſſedneſs. Attend, O my children, unto the bleſſings of your Father, and hear, and know the glorious immunities, and the royal prerogatives that I here confirm upon ye. Here I ſeal

ye

ye your pardon. Though your ſins be as many as the ſands, and as mighty as the mountains, I will drown them in the deeps of my bottomleſs mercies. I will be merciful to your unrighteouſneſs; I will multiply to pardon; where your ſins have abounded, my grace ſhall ſuper-abound; though they be as ſcarlet, they ſhall be white as ſnow; though red like crimſon, they ſhall be as wool. Behold I declare myſelf ſatisfied, and pronounce ye abſolved: the price is paid, your debts are cleared, your bonds are cancelled.

Whatever the law, or conſcience, or the accuſer, hath to charge upon ye; here I exonerate ye, I diſcharge ye. I, even I am he, that blotteth out your tranſgreſſions, for my name's ſake. Who ſhall lay any thing to your charge, when I acquit ye? Who ſhall impeach or implead ye, when I proclaim ye guiltleſs? Sons, daughters be of good chear your ſins are forgiv'n ye. I will ſprinkle your conſciences, and put the voice of peace into their mouths, and they ſhall be your regiſters, in which I will record your pardon, and the voice of guilt, and wrath and terror ſhall ceaſe.

Here I ſign your releaſe from the houſe of bondage. Come forth ye captives, come forth ye priſoners of hope, for I have found a ranſom: I proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the priſon to them that are bound. Behold I have broken your bonds, and ſhook the foundations of your priſons, and opened the iron gates; by the blood of the covenant have I ſent forth the priſoners out of the pit wherein there is no

water. Ariſe, O redeemed of the Lord, put off the raiment of your captivities, ariſe and come away.

The dark and noiſome priſon of ſin ſhall no longer detain ye. I will looſe your fetters, and knock off your bolts. Sin ſhall not have dominion over ye.

I will heal your back-ſlidings, I will ſubdue your iniquities, I will ſanctify ye wholly, and will put my fear in your hearts, that ye ſhall not depart from me. Though your corruptions be ſtrong and many, yet the aids of my Spirit, and cleanſing virtue of my word, and phyſic of my corrections ſhall ſo work together with your prayers and endeavours, as that they ſhall not *finally* prevail againſt ye, but ſhall ſurely fall before ye. From the ſtrong and ſtinking jail of the grave do I deliver ye; O death, I will be thy plague, O grave, I will be thy deſtruction; my beloved ſhall not ever ſee corruption.

I will change your rottenneſs into glory and make your duſt ariſe and praiſe me. What is ſown in weakneſs, I will raiſe in power: what is ſown in corruption, I will raiſe in incorruption: what is ſown a natural body, I will raiſe a ſpiritual body. This very fleſh of yours, this corruptible fleſh, ſhall put on incorruption; and this mortal ſhall put on immortality, Death ſhall be ſwallowed up in victory, aud mortality of life. Fear not my children, come, and I will ſhew ye the enemy that ye dreaded, See, here lies the King of terrors, like *Siſera* in the tent, faſtened to the ground with the nail ſtruck thro' his temples. Behold the grateful preſent, the head of your enemy in a charger;

charger: I bequeath ye your conquered adverſary, and make over death as a legacy. O death where is thy ſting? where now is thine armour wherein thou truſteſt? Come my people, enter into your chambers: Come to your beds of duſt, and lay ye down in peace, and let your fleſh reſt in hope: for even in this fleſh ſhall ye ſee God. O ye ſlain of death, your carcaſſes, now as loathſome as the carrion in the ditch, will I redeem from the power of the grave, and faſhion thoſe vile bodies like unto the glorious body of your Exalted REDEEMER. Look if ye can on the ſun, when ſhining in it's ſtrength, with ſuch ſhining glory will I cloath ye, O ye of little faith.

From the terrible dungeon of eternal darkneſs do I hereby free ye: fear not, ye ſhall not be hurt of the ſecond death; ye are delivered from the wrath to come, and ſhall never come into condemnation; the flames of *Tophet* ſhall not be able to ſinge the hairs of your head, no, nor the ſmell of the fire paſs upon ye: ſtand upon the brink, and look down into the horrible pit, the infernal priſon, from whence I have freed ye; ſee ye how the ſmoke of their torment aſcendeth for ever; hear you the curſings and ravings, the roarings and blaſphemies? What think ye of thoſe helliſh fiends? would ye have been willing to have had them for your companions and tormentors? What think ye of thoſe chains of darkneſs; or of the river of brimſtone, of the inſtruments of torment for ſoul and body, of thoſe weepings and wailings and gnaſhing of teeth? Can ye think of an everlaſting baniſhment, of *a go ye curſed?*

Could

Could ye dwell with everlasting, could ye abide with devouring fire? This is the inheritance ye were born to. But I have cut off the entail, and wrought for ye a Great Salvation. I have not ordain'd ye to wrath, but my thoughts towards ye are thoughts of peace.

Here I deliver ye your protection, From all your enemies will I save ye. I grant ye a protection from the arrests of the law: your *Surety* hath fully answered it: My justice is satisfied, my wrath is pacified, my honor is repaired, Behold, I am near that justify ye, who is he that shall condemn ye?

From the usurped dominion of the powers of darkness, I will tread Satan shortly under ye, and I will set your feet in triumph upon the necks of your enemies. Let not your hearts be troubled; tho' ye be to wrestle with principalities and powers, and the rulers of the *darkness of this world*: for stronger is he that is in ye, than he that is in the world. He may bruise your heel, but ye shall bruise his head. Behold your REDEEMER leading captivity captive, spoiling principalities and powers, and triumphing over them openly in his cross. See how Satan falleth like lightning from heaven, and the *Sampson* of your salvation beareth away the gates of hell, posts and all upon his shoulder, and setteth them up as trophies of his victory: how he pulleth out the throat of the lyon, and lifteth up the heart of the traitor upon the head of his spear and washeth his hands, and dyeth his robes in the blood of those your enemies.

From the victory of the world, neither its frowns, nor its flatteries, ſhall be too hard for your victorious faith; though it raiſe up *Egypt*, *Amalek*, and *Moab*, and all its whole militia againſt ye, yet it ſhall never keep ye out of *Canaan*. Be of good comfort, your Lord hath overcome the world, though its temptations be very powerful, yet this upon my faithfulneſs will I promiſe ye, that no ſuch ſhall come upon ye, but ye ſhall be able to bear. But if I ſee ſuch tryals (which ye fear) would be too hard for your graces, and overthrow your ſouls, I will never ſuffer them to come upon ye; nay, I will make your enemy to ſerve ye, and do bequeath the world as part of your dowry to ye.

From the curſe of the croſs affliction ſhall prove a wholeſome cup to ye; your Lord hath drank the venom into his own body, and what remains for ye is but a healthful potion, which I will promiſe ye ſhall work for your good. Be not afraid to drink nor deſire the cup ſhould paſs from ye; I bleſs the cup before I give it unto ye. Drink ye all of it and be thankful; ye ſhall find my bleſſing at the bottom of the cup, to ſweeten the ſharpeſt afflictions to ye. I will ſtand by ye in all conditions, and be a faſt friend to ye in every change. In the wilderneſs I will ſpeak comfortably to ye, and in the fire, and in the water I will be with ye. I will be a ſtrength to the poor, and a ſtrength to the needy in his diſtreſs; a refuge from the ſtorm, and a ſhadow from the heat, when the blaſt of the terrible ones is as a ſtorm againſt the wall. Your

ſufferings

ſufferings ſhall not be a cup of wrath, but a Grace-cup; not a curſe but a cure; not a cup of trembling but a cup of bleſſing to ye. They ſhall not hurt ye, but heal ye. My bleſſing ſhall attend ye in every condition; I ſay, not only bleſſed ſhall ye be in your baſket, and bleſſed in your ſtore, but bleſſed ſhall ye be in your poverty, and bleſſed ſhall ye be in your ſtraits; not only bleſſed ſhall ye be in your cities and in your fields, but bleſſed ſhall ye be in your bonds, and in your baniſhment. Bleſſed ſhall ye be when ye are perſecuted, and when ye are reviled, and your name is caſt out as evil: yea then doubly bleſſed. My choiceſt bleſſings, greateſt good and richeſt ſweets will I put into your evil things. Theſe happy immunities, theſe glorious liberties of the Sons of God, by this *Immutable* Charter, I do for *ever* ſettle upon ye: and do in and with my covenant, *unalterably*, *irrevocably*, *everlaſtingly* convey unto ye and confirm upon ye. Yea I will not only free ye from your miſeries, but will confer upon ye Royal Priveleges and Prerogatives, and inſtate ye into higher and greater happineſs than ever ye have fallen from. Lo, I give *Myſelf* to ye, and *All things* with *Myſelf*.

Behold, O ye ſons of men? behold and wonder, be aſtoniſhed O heavens! Be moved ye ſtrong foundations of the earth, for ye ſhall be my witneſſes. This day do I by covenant beſtow myſelf on my ſervants. I will be your God for ever and ever; your own God: nothing in the world is ſo much your own as I: the houſes that ye have built, that ye have bought, are not ſo much

yours

yours as I am: here ye are tenants at will; but I am your eternal inheritance: theſe are loans for a ſeaſon; but I am your dwelling-place in all generations. Ye have no where ſo great a propriety, ſo ſure and unalterable claim as ye have here. What do ye count your own? Do ye think that your bodies are your own, your ſouls your own? Nay, theſe are not your own, they are bought with a price; but ye may boldly make your claim to me; ye may freely challenge an intereſt in me. Come near and fear not; where ſhould ye be free, if not with your own? Where ſhould ye be bold, if not at home? Ye are never in all the world ſo much at home, as when ye are with me. Ye may freely make uſe of me, or of any of my attributes, whenever ye have need: I will be all to ye that ye can wiſh: I will be a friend to ye; my ſecrets ſhall be with ye, and ye ſhall have all freedom of acceſs to me, and liberty to pour out of all your hearts into my boſom. I will be a phyſician to ye; I will heal your back-ſlidings, and cure all your diſeaſes. Fear not, never did ſoul miſcarry that left itſelf in my hands, and would but follow my preſcriptions.

I will be a ſhepherd to ye. Be not afraid of evil tidings, for I am with ye; my rod, and my ſtaff ſhall comfort ye. Ye ſhall not want, for I will feed ye; ye ſhall not wander (to be loſt) for I will reſtore ye, I will cauſe ye to lie down in green paſtures, and lead ye beſide the ſtill waters. I will gather ye with mine arm, and carry ye in my boſom, and will lead on ſoftly, as the flock and the children be able to endure. If Officers

be careleſs I will do the work my ſelf. I will judge betwen cattle and cattle. I will ſeek that which was loſt, and bring again that which was driven away, and bind up that which was broken, and ſtrengthen that which was ſick; but I will deſtroy the fat and the ſtrong, and will feed them with judgment. I will watch over my flock by night. Behold, I have appointed my miniſters as your watchmen and overſeers that watch for your ſouls: yea, mine angels ſhall be your watchers, and ſhall keep a conſtant guard upon my flock; and if peradventure the ſervant ſhould ſleep, mine own eyes ſhall keep a perpetual watch over ye by night and by day. The keeper of Iſrael never ſlumbreth nor ſleepeth, nor withdraweth his eyes from the righteous. I will guide ye with mine eyes; I never truſt ye out of mine own ſight.

I will be a ſovereign to ye; the Lord is your judge, the Lord is your law-giver, the Lord is your king. Fear not the unrighteouſneſs of men; I will judge your cauſe, I will defend your right, ye ſhall not ſtand at man's bar, ye ſhall not be caſt at their vote: let them curſe, I will bleſs: let them condemn I will juſtify. When ye come upon trial for your lives, to have your eternal ſtate decided, ye ſhall ſee your friend, your father, upon the bench; into my hands ſhall your cauſe be caſt, and ye ſhall ſurely ſtand in judgment, and be found at the right hand among the ſheep, and hear the king ſay, Come ye bleſſed inherit the kingdom.

I will be an huſband to ye: in loving-kindneſs, and in mercies, will I betroth ye unto me for ever. I will eſpouſe your intereſt, and will be as one with ye, and ye with me: ye ſhall be for me and not for another, and I alſo will be for ye. Though I found ye an helpleſs infant, expoſed in its blood, all your unworthineſs doth not diſcourage me: lo, I have looked upon ye, and, ſpread my ſkirt over ye and put my comelineſs upon ye: moreover I ſwear unto ye, and enter into covenant with ye, and ye ſhall be mine, Behold I do, as it were put myſelf out of mine own power; and do here ſolemnly, in this my marriage covenant, make away myſelf to ye, and with myſelf all things.

I will be an everlaſting portion to ye: lift up now your eyes eaſtward, and weſtward, and northward, and ſouthward, have ye not a worthy portion, a goodly heritage? Can ye caſt up your riches, or count your own happineſs? Can ye fathom immenſity, or reach omnipotency, or comprehend eternity? All this is yours; I will ſet open all my treaſures to ye, I will keep back nothing from ye: all the attributes in the God-head, and all the perſons in the God-head, I do hereby make over to ye; I will be yours in all my eſſential perfections, and in all my perſonal relations.

In all mine essential Perfections.

Mine eternity ſhall be the date of your happineſs. I am the Eternal God, and while I am, I will be

life and bleſſedneſs to ye; I will be a never-failing fountain of joy and peace, and bliſs to ye. I am the firſt and laſt, that was, and is, and is to come, and mine eternal power and God-head ſhall be bound for, and to ye.

I will be your God, your Father, your friend, while I have any being. I have made mine everlaſting choice in pitching upon ye. Fear not for the eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlaſting arms: my durable riches and righteouſneſs ſhall be yours. Though all ſhould forſake ye, yet will not I forſake ye. When the world, and all that is therein, ſhall be burnt up, I will be a ſtanding portion for ye. When ye are forgotten among the dead, with everlaſting loving kindneſs will I remember ye.

Mine uncheangeableneſs ſhall be the rock of your reſt. When all the world is like the tumbling ocean round about ye, here ye may fix and ſettle; I am your reſting place.

The immutability of my nature, and of my counſel, and of my covenant, are ſure footing for your faith, and a firm foundation for your ſtrong and everlaſting conſolation. When ye are afflicted, toſſed with tempeſts, and not comforted, put into me; I am an haven of hope, I am an harbour of reſt for ye; here caſt your anchors and ye ſhall never be moved.

Mine omnipotency ſhall be your guard. I am God almighty, your almighty protector, your almighty benefactor. What though your enemies are many?

more

more are they that are with ye, than they that are againſt ye; for I am with ye. What though they are mighty? they are not Almighty; your Father is greater than all, and none ſhall pluck ye (pluck while they will) out of my hands. Who can hinder my power, or obſtruct my ſalvation! Who is like unto the God of Jeſurun, who rideth on the heaven for your help, and in his excellency on the ſky. I am the ſword of your ſtrength, and the ſhield of your excellency. I am your rock and your fortreſs, your deliverer, your ſtrength, the horn of your ſalvation, and your high tower. I will maintain ye againſt all the power of the enemy. Ye ſhall never ſink if Omnipotency can ſupport ye: the gates of hell ſhall not prevail againſt ye: your enemies ſhall find hard work of it: they ſhall overcome victory, or enervate Omnipotence, or corrupt fidelity, or change immutability or elſe they cannot *finally* prevail againſt ye. Either they ſhall bow or break. Though they ſhall exalt themſelves as the eagle, though they ſhould ſet their neſt among the ſtars, even there will I bring them down, ſaith the Lord.

My faithfulneſs ſhall be your ſecurity; my truth, yea, my oath ſhall fail, if ever ye come off loſers by me. I will make ye to confeſs, when ye ſee the iſſue and upſhot of all my providences, that I was a God worthy to be truſted, worthy to be believed, worthy to be reſted in and relied upon. If ye walk not in my judgments, ye muſt look for my threats and frowns, yea, and blows too, and ye ſhall ſee that I

am not in jeſt with ye, nor will I indulge ye in your ſins; nevertheleſs my loving kindneſs will I never take from ye, nor ſuffer my faithfulneſs to fail; my covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.

MERCY.

My mercies ſhall be your ſtore. I am the Father of mercies, and ſuch a Father will I be to ye. I am the fountain of mercies, and this fountain ſhall be ever open to ye. My mercies are very many, and they ſhall be multiplied towards ye: very great, and they ſhall be magnified upon ye; very ſure, and they ſhall be very ſure to ye; very tender, and they ſhall be infinitely tender of ye. Though the fig-tree do not bloſſom, nor the vine bear, nor the flock bring forth; fear not, for my compaſſions fail not, ſurely goodneſs and mercy ſhall follow ye all the days of your lives. Even to your old age, I am he, and even to hoar hairs will I carry ye; I have made, and I will bear, even I will carry and deliver ye. I will make an everlaſting covenant with ye, that I will not turn away from ye to do ye good; I ſwear that I will ſhew ye the kindneſs of God. I can as ſoon forget to be God, as forget to be gracious: while my Name is JEHOVAH, merciful, gracious, long ſuffering, abundant in goodneſs and truth, I will never forget to ſhew mercy to ye; all my ways towards ye ſhall be mercy and truth. I have ſworn that I will not be

wroth

wroth with ye, nor rebuke ye; for the mountains ſhall depart, and the hills be removed, but my kindneſs ſhall not depart from ye, neither ſhall the covenant of my peace be removed, ſaith the Lord that hath mercy on ye.

OMNISCIENCE.

Mine Omniſciency ſhall be your Overſeer. Mine eyes ſhall be ever open, obſerving your wants to relieve them, and your wrongs to avenge them; mine ears ſhall be ever open to hear the prayers of my poor, the cry of mine oppreſſed, the clamours, calumnies, and reproaches of your enemies. Surely I have ſeen your affliction, and know your ſorrows; and ſhall not God avenge his own *Elect?* I will avenge them *ſpeedily.* I ſee the ſecret plots and deſigns of your enemies againſt ye, and will diſannul their councils. I ſee your ſecret integrity, and the uprightneſs of your hearts towards me, while the carnal and cenſorious world condemn ye as hypocrites. Your ſecret prayers, faſts, and tears, which the world knows nothing of, I obſerve them, and record them. Your ſecret care to pleaſe me, your ſecret pains with your own hearts, your ſecret ſelf-ſearchings and ſelf-denial; I ſee them all, and your Father who ſeeth in ſecret, ſhall reward them openly.

WISDOM.

My Wiſdom ſhall be your Counſellor. If any want wiſdom, let him aſk of me, and it ſhall be given him. I will be your Deliverer. When ye are in darkneſs I will be a light to ye; I will make your way plain before ye. Ye are but ſhort-ſighted, but I will be eyes to ye. I will watch over ye to bring upon ye all the good I have promiſed, and to keep off all the evil ye fear, or to turn it into good. Ye ſhall have your food and your phyſick in it's ſeaſon: mercies, afflictions, all ſuitable, and in it's ſeaſon.

At Destruction Thou shalt laugh.

I will outwit your enemies, and make their oracles to ſpeak but folly. The old ſerpent ſhall not deceive ye; I will acquaint ye with his devices. The deceitful hearts ye fear ſhall not undo ye, I will diſcover their wiles.

I know how to deliver the godly out of temptation, and to reſerve the unjuſt to the day of judgment to be puniſhed. Truſt in me with all your hearts, and lean not to your own underſtanding. I am God that performeth all things for ye. I will forfeit the reputation of my wiſdom, if I make ye not to acknowledge when ye ſee the end of the Lord, (though at preſent ye wonder, and reach not the meaning of my proceedings) that all my words are performed in number, time and order; if I find ye not cry out, manifold

are thy works, O Lord, in wiſdom haſt thou made them all.

JUSTICE.

My Juſtice ſhall be your revenger and rewarder. Fear not to approach; fury is not in me. My Juſtice is not only appeaſed, but engaged for ye. I am ſatisfied in the ſacrifice of my BELOVED. That Juſtice which was a flaming ſword drawn againſt ye, doth now greatly befriend ye; and that which was an amazing, confounding terror, ſhall now become your relief and conſolation. Under all your oppreſſions, here ſhall your refuge be. Let me know your grievances, my Juſtice ſhall right your wrongs and reward your ſervices. Ye may conclude upon your pardons, conclude upon your crowns, conclude upon reparation for all your injuries; and all from the ſweet conſideration of my Juſtice, the thought of which, to others is as the horror of the ſhadow of death. If ye ſin, deſpair not; remember, I am juſt to forgive ye. If ye are at any pains or coſt for me, do not count it loſt; for I am not unrighteous to forget ye. I am the righteous Judge, that have laid up for ye, and will ſet on ye the crown of righteouſneſs. Are ye reviled, perſecuted, defamed? forget not that I am righteous, to render tribulation to them that trouble ye; and to ye that are troubled reſt with me. Though all your ſervices and ſufferings deſerve not the leaſt good at my hands, yet as I have *freely* paſſed my promiſe

reward them, ſo I will as juſtly keep it.

OMNIPRESENCE.

Mine Omnipreſence ſhall be company for ye; ſhall be your ſocial friend and familiar acquaintance. Surely I will be with ye to bleſs ye. No bolts, nor bars, nor bonds, nor baniſhment ſhall remove ye from my preſence; and the influence of heaven is always with ye. In your darkeſt nights, and deepeſt dangers, I am at hand with ye, a very preſent help in the time of trouble. I am not a God afar off, or aſleep, or on a journey, when ye need my counſel, mine ear, or mine aid; I am always nigh unto them that fear me. No priſon ſhall hinder the preſence of my grace from ye; my preſence ſhall perfume the moſt noiſome wards, and lighten the darkeſt dungeon where ye can be put.

HOLINESS.

My Holineſs ſhall be a fountain of grace to ye. I am the God of hope, of love and of patience; the author and finiſher of faith, the God of all grace, and I will give grace to ye. My deſign is to make ye partakers of my holineſs; I will be a conſtant ſpring of ſpiritual life to ye. The water that I ſhall give ye, ſhall be in ye as a well of water ſpringing up into everlaſting life. The ſeed of life that I ſhall put into ye, ſhall be ſo fed, cheriſhed, and maintained by my power, that it ſhall be IMMORTAL.

The

The unction that ye ſhall receive from the HOLY ONE, ſhall abide in ye, and teach ye all things (neceſſary for ye) and as it hath taught ye, ye ſhall abide in him. Keep but the channels open, and ply the means which I have preſcribed, and ye ſhall flouriſh in the courts of your God: yea, I will ſatisfy your ſouls in drought, and make fat your bones, and ye ſhall be as a watered garden. Lo, I will be as the dew unto ye, and ye ſhall grow as the lily, and caſt forth your roots as Lebanon; and your branches ſhall ſpread, and your beauty be as the olive tree. Ye ſhall ſtill bring forth fruit in old age; ye ſhall be fat and flouriſhing.

SOVERAIGNTY.

My Soveraignty ſhall be commanded by ye, Ye ſhall be my favourites, men of power, to prevail with me; all mine attributes ſhall be at the command of your prayers.

ALL-SUFFICIENCY.

In ſum, mine all-ſufficiency ſhall be the lot of your inheritance. My fulneſs is your treaſure: my houſe is your home. Ye may come as freely to my ſtore, as to your own cupboard; ye may have your hand as freely in my treaſures as in your own purſes. Ye cannot aſk too much, ye cannot look for too much from me; I will give ye, or be myſelf to ye inſtead of all comforts. Ye ſhall have children, or I will be better to ye then

ten children; ye ſhall have riches. Ye ſhall have friends, if beſt for ye, or elſe I will be your comforter in your ſolitude, your counſellor in your diſtreſs. If ye leave father or mother, or houſe or lands for my ſake, ye ſhall have an hundred fold in me. Even in this time when your enemies ſhall remove your comforts it ſhall be but as the ſtopping the ciſtern from running, and opening the fountain; or putting out the candles and letting in the ſun. The ſwelling the waters ſhall raiſe higher the ark of your comfort. I will be the ſtaff of bread to ye, your life and ſtrength of your days. I will be the houſe and home to ye, ye ſhall dwell with me, yea, dwell in me, and I in ye. I will ſtand and fall with ye. I will repair your loſſes, and relieve your needs. Can ye burn out the lamp of heaven, or lave out the boundleſs ocean with your hands? Why, the ſun ſhall be dark, and the ſea be dry, before the father of lights, the fountain of mercies, ſhall be exhauſted. Behold though the world hath been ſpending upon the ſtock of my mercy, ever ſince I created man upon earth, yet it runs with full ſtream ſtill. My ſun doth diffuſe its rays, and diſburſe its light, and yet ſhines as bright as ever; much more can I diſpence of my goodneſs, and fill my creatures brim full and running over, and yet have never the leſs in myſelf; and till this all-ſufficiency be ſpent ye ſhall never be undone. I am the GOD of Abraham, and of Iſaac and of Jacob, and whatever I was to them I will be to ye. Are ye in want? ye know whether to go; I am ever at home, ye ſhall not go away empty from my door.

Never

Never diſtract yourſelf with cares and fears, but make known your requeſts by prayer and ſupplication to me. I will help when all do fail. When friends fail, and heart fails, when your eye-ſtrings crack, and your heart-ſtrings break; when your acquaintance leave ye, your ſouls leave ye, my boſom ſhall be open to ye. I will lock up your duſt, I will receive your ſouls.

INFINITY.

And mine Infiniteneſs ſhall be the extent of your inheritance. Can ye by ſearching find out God? Can ye find out the Almighty to perfection? It is as high as heaven what can ye do, deeper than hell what can ye know? This height incomprehenſible, this deep unfathomable ſhall be all yours, *for ever* yours. I am your Inheritance, which no line can meaſure, no arithmatic can value, no ſurveyor can deſcribe. Lift up now your eyes to the ancient mountains, and to the utmoſt bounds of the everlaſting hills, all that ye can ſee is yours: but your ſhort ſight cannot ken the moiety of what I give ye; and when ye ſee and know moſt, ye are no leſs than infinitely ſhort of the diſcovery of your own riches.

Yea further, I will be yours in all my Perſonal Relations.

I am the EVERLASTING FATHER, and I will be a Father to ye. I take ye for my Sons and Daughters. Behold, I receive ye not as ſervants, but as Sons to abide in my houſe for ever. Whatever love

or care children may look for from their father, that may ye expect from me; and ſo much more as I am wiſer, greater and better than any earthly parents. If earthly fathers will give good things to their children, much more will I give to ye. If ſuch cannot forget their children, much leſs will I forget ye. What would my children have? Your Father's heart, houſe, care, ear, bread and rod theſe ſhall be all yours.

Ye ſhall have my Fatherly affection, my heart I ſhare among ye, my tendereſt loves I beſtow upon ye.

My Fatherly compaſſion. As a father pitieth his children, ſo will I pity ye. I will conſider your frame, and not be extreme to mark what is done amiſs by ye, but cover all with the mantle of my excuſing love.

My Fatherly inſtruction. I will cauſe ye to hear the ſweet voice behind ye, ſaying, this is the way. I will tender your weakneſs, and inculcate mine admonitions, line upon line, and feed ye with milk, when ye cannot digeſt ſtronger meat. I will inſtruct ye and guide ye with mine eye.

My Fatherly protection. In my fear is ſtrong confidence, and my children ſhall have a place of refuge. My Name ſhall be your ſtrong Tower, to which ye may always flee and be ſafe. I am an open refuge, a near and inviolable refuge for ye.

My Fatherly proviſion. Be not afraid of want, in your Father's houſe there is bread enough. I will take care of your bodies. Care not for what ye ſhall eat, drink or put on. Let it ſuffice ye, that your Heavenly

Father

Father knoweth that ye have need of all things. I will provide for your ſouls: food, manſions and portions for them. Behold, I have ſpread the table of my Goſpel for ye with priveleges and comforts that no man taketh from ye. I have ſet before ye the bread of life, the tree and the water of life: eat, O Friends, and drink abundantly, O Beloved.

But all this is but a taſte of what I have prepared for ye. Ye muſt have but ſmiles and hints now, and be contented with glimpſes and glances here; but ye ſhall be ſhortly taken up into your Father's Boſom, and live for ever in the fulleſt views of his Glory.

My Fatherly Probation. I will chaſten ye becauſe I love ye, that ye may not be condemned with the world.

Interest in the SON of GOD.

My Son I give unto ye in a marriage-covenant for ever. I make Him over to ye as wiſdom, for your illumination; righteouſneſs, for your juſtification; ſanctification, for the curing of your corruptions; redemption, your deliverance from your enemies. I beſtow Him upon ye, with all his fulneſs, all his merits, and all his graces. He ſhall be yours in all his offices. I have anointed Him for a Prophet. Are ye ignorant He ſhall teach ye; He ſhall be eye-ſalve to ye. I have ſent Him to preach the Goſpel to the poor, and recovering of ſight to the blind; to ſet at liberty them that are bruiſed. I have eſtabliſhed Him by oath, as

a Prieſt

a Prieſt for ever. If any ſin He ſhall be your Advocate. He ſhall expiate your guilt, and make an atonement. Have ye any ſacrifice, any ſervice to offer, bring it unto Him, and ye ſhall receive an anſwer of peace.

Preſent your petitions by his hand, Him will I accept. Having ſuch an High Prieſt over the houſe of God, ye may come and welcome; come with boldneſs. Him have I ſet up as a King upon my Holy Hill of SION. He ſhall rule ye and defend ye. He is the King of Righteouſneſs and Peace; and ſuch a King ſhall He be to ye. I will ſet up his Standard for ye: I will ſet up his Throne in ye. He ſhall reign in Righteouſneſs, and rule in judgment; and He ſhall be a hidingplace from the wind, and a covert from the tempeſt, and the ſhadow of a great rock in a weary land. He ſhall hear your cauſes, judge your enemies, and reign till he hath put all under his feet. Yea, and under your feet; for they ſhall be as aſhes under ye, and ye ſhall tread them, ſaith the Lord. Yea, I will undo them that afflict ye, and all they that deſpiſed ye ſhall bow themſelves down at the ſoles of your feet. And ye ſhall go forth, and behold the carcaſſes of the men that have treſpaſſed againſt me; for their worm ſhall not die, neither ſhall their fire be quench'd: and they ſhall be an abhorring to all fleſh.

Special Interest in the HOLY SPIRIT.

My Spirit do I give unto ye for your counſellor, and your comforter. He ſhall be a conſtant inmate with

with ye, and ſhall dwell in ye, and abide with ye for ever.

I conſecrate ye as temples to his holineſs. He ſhall be your guide; he ſhall lead ye into all truth. He ſhall be your advocate to indite your prayers, and make interceſſion for ye and ſhall fill your mouths with the arguments that he knows will prevail with me. He ſhall be oil to your wheels, and ſtrength to your ancles, wine to your hearts, marrow to your bones, and wind to your ſails; he ſhall witneſs your adoption; he ſhall ſeal ye, up to the day of redemption, and be to ye the earneſt of your inheritance, until the redemption of the purchaſed poſſeſſion; and as I give ye myſelf, ſo much more all things with myſelf, earth and heaven, life and death, things preſent and things to come.

Things preſent are yours; lo I give ye Caleb's bleſſing, the upper ſprings, and the nether ſprings. I will bleſs ye with all ſpiritual bleſſings in heavenly places in Chriſt.

To ye pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, the covenant, and the ſervice of God, and the promiſes. To ye will I give the white ſtone, and the new name, acceſs into my preſence, the acceptation of your perſons, the audience of your prayers.

Peace I leave with ye. My peace I give unto ye. I will undertake for your perſeverance, and keep ye to the end, and then will crown mine own gift with eternal life. I have made ye Heirs of God, and Co-heirs with your Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and ye ſhall inherit all things.

I have granted ye mine Angels for your guardians. The Courtiers of Heaven ſhall attend upon ye; they ſhall be all miniſtring ſpirits for your good. Behold I have given them charge over ye, upon their fidelity to look after ye, and, as the tender nurſes, to bear ye in their arms, and to keep ye from coming to any hurt. Theſe ſhall be as the careful ſhepherds, to watch over my flocks by night, and to encamp round about my fold.

My Miniſters I give for your guides. Paul, Apollos, Cephas, all are yours. I am always with them, and they ſhall be always with ye to the end of the world. Ye ſhall have paſtors after mine own heart, and this ſhall be my covenant with ye that my ſpirit which is upon ye and my words which I have put into your mouth ſhall not depart out of your mouth, nor the mouth of your ſeed nor of your ſeed's ſeed, ſaith the Lord from henceforth and for ever.

In ſhort, all my officers ſhall be for the profiting and perfecting of ye. All mine ordinances ſhall be for edifying and ſaving ye. The very ſeverities of my houſe, admonitions, cenſures, &c. and the whole diſcipline of my family ſhall be for preventing of your infection, curing of corruption, procuring your ſalvation.

My word have I ordained for converting your ſoul, enlightening your eyes, rejoicing your hearts, cautioning ye of dangers, cleanſing your defilements, and conforming ye to my image. To ye I commit the

oracles

oracles of God. Here ye ſhall be furniſhed againſt temptations; hence ye ſhall be comforted under diſtreſſes and afflictions: here ye ſhall find my whole counſel. This ſhall inſtruct ye in your way, correct ye in your wanderings, direct ye into the truths to be believed, detect to ye the errors to be rejected.

My Sacraments I give ye as the pledges of my love. Ye ſhall freely claim them, they are children's bread. Lo, I have given them as ſeals, to certify all that I have here promiſed ye; and when theſe ſacred ſigns are delivered unto ye, then know and remember and conſider in your hearts that I therein plight ye my troth, and ſet to my hand and do thereby ratify and confirm every article of theſe Indentures, and do actually deliver into your hands this Glorious Charter, with all its immunities and priveleges as your own *for ever*.

And having ſowed to ye ſo largely in ſpiritual bleſſings, ſhall ye not much more reap the temporal? Be ye not of doubtful mind, all theſe things ſhall be added unto ye. My creatures I grant for your ſervants and ſupplies. Heaven and earth ſhall miniſter to ye. All the ſtars in their courſes ſhall ſerve ye, and (if need be) ſhall fight for ye: And I will make my covenant for ye with the beaſts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; and ye ſhall be in league with the ſtones of the field, and all ſhall be at peace with ye. I will undertake for all your neceſſities. Do I feed the fowls and cloath the graſs, and do ye think I will neglect my children? I hear the young ravens when they cry, ſhall I not much more fulfil the deſire of them that

fear me? Fear not, ye ſhall be ſure to want no good thing; and ye would not yourſelves deſire riches, pleaſures, or preferment, to your hurt. I will be ever be mindful of my covenant.

My Providences ſhall co-operate to your good. The croſs wind ſhall blow ye the ſooner and ſwifter into your harbour. Ye ſhall be preferred, when ye ſeem moſt debaſed, and then be greateſt gainers, when ye ſeem to be deepeſt loſers: and moſt effectually promote your good, when ye ſeem moſt to deny it. Things to come are yours, the perfecting of your ſouls, the redemption of your bodies, the conſummation of your bliſs.

When ye have glorified me for a while upon earth, and finiſhed the work I have given ye to do, ye ſhall be caught up into Paradiſe, and reſt from your labors, and your works ſhall follow ye. I will ſend of my own Life-guard, to conduct home your departing ſouls, and receive ye among the ſpirits of juſt men made perfect; and ye ſhall look back upon Pharaoh and all his hoſt, and ſee your enemies dead upon the ſhore; then ſhall be your redemption from all your afflictions, and all your corruptions. The thorn in the fleſh ſhall be pulled out, and the hour of temptation ſhall be over, and the tempter for ever out of work.

The ſweat ſhall be wiped off from your brows, and the day of cooling and refreſhing ſhall come, and ye ſhall ſit ye down for ever under my ſhadow; for the Lamb that is in the midſt of the throne ſhall feed ye, and lead ye unto living fountains of waters.

The

The tears ſhall be wiped away from your eyes, and there ſhall be no more ſorrow nor crying, neither ſhall there be any more pain; for the former things are paſſed away, and behold I make all things new, I will change Marah into Naomi, and the cup of ſorrow into the cup of ſalvation; and the bread and water of affliction into the wine of eternal conſolation, ye ſhall take down your harps from the willows, and I will turn your tears into pearls, and your penitential pſalms into ſongs of deliverance. Ye ſhall change your Ichabods into hoſannas, and your Ejahs of ſorrow into hallelujahs of joy.

The croſs ſhall be taken off your backs, and ye ſhall come out of your great tribulations, and waſh your robes, and make them white in the blood of the lamb; and ye ſhall be before the throne of God, and ſerve him night and day in his temple, and he that ſitteth on the throne ſhall dwell among ye, and ye ſhall hunger no more, and thirſt no more, neither ſhall the ſun light upon ye, nor any heat.

The load ſhall be taken off from your conſciences. Sins nor doubts ſhall no more defile ye nor diſtreſs ye. I will make an end of ſin, and knock off the fetters of your corruptions, and ye ſhall be a glorious church, not having ſpot or wrinkle, or any ſuch thing, but holy and without blemiſh.

Thus ſhall ye be brought to the King all glorious, in raiment of needle-work, and cloathing of gold; with gladneſs and rejoicing ſhall ye be brought, and enter into the king's palace. So ſhall the beloved of

the

the Lord dwell ſafely by him and ye ſhall ſtand continually before Him, and behold the beauty of the Lord and hear his wiſdom. Then will I open in ye an everlaſting ſpring of joy, and ye ſhall break forth into ſinging, and never ceaſe more, nor reſt night or day, ſaying HOLY, HOLY, HOLY.

Thus ſhall the grand enemy expire with your breath and the body of death be put off with your dying body, and the day of your death ſhall be the birth-day of your glory.

Have faith in God. Wait but a little, and ſorrow ſhall ceaſe, and ſin be no more.

And then a little longer, and death ſhall be no more; but your laſt enemy ſhall be deſtroyed, and your victory compleated. Yet a little while, and He that ſhall come will come, and ye alſo ſhall appear with Him in glory. This ſame Jeſus, which is taken from ye into heaven, ſhall ſo come as He went up into heaven, and when He cometh, He will receive ye to Himſelf, that where He is there ye may be alſo. Behold his ſign, He cometh in the clouds of heaven with power, and great glory; and every eye ſhall ſee Him, and all the tribes of the earth ſhall mourn becauſe of Him; but ye ſhall lift up your heads, becauſe the day of your redemption draweth nigh. Then ſhall He ſound his trump, and make ye to hear his voice in the duſt, and ſhall ſend his mighty Angels to gather ye from the four winds of heaven; who ſhall carry ye in the triumphant chariot of the clouds, to meet your Lord; and ye ſhall be prepared for, and preſented to Him,

as a

as a bride adorned for her huſband. And as ye have borne the Image of the earthly, ſo ſhall ye bear the image of the heavenly? and ye ſhall be fully conformed both in body and ſpirit to your Glorious HEAD. Then ſhall He confeſs ye before his Angels, and ye ſhall receive your open abſolution before all fleſh. and be owned, approved and applauded in the public audience of the general aſſembly? and ye ſhall be with all Royal ſolemnities; eſpouſed unto the KING of GLORY, in the preſence of all his ſhining Courtiers, to the envy and gnaſhings and terror of your adverſaries.

So ſhall your Lord, with his own hand, crown ye, and ſet ye on thrones, and ye ſhall judge men and angels, and ye ſhall have power over the nations, and ye ſhall ſet your feet upon the necks of your enemies.

Lo, I have ſet the very day for your enſtallment, I have provided your crowns, I have prepared the kingdom. Wherefore do ye doubt, O ye of little faith? theſe are the true ſayings of God. Are ye ſure that ye are now on earth; ſo ſurely ſhall ye be ſhortly with me in heaven. Are ye ſure ye ſhall die? ſo ſurely ſhall ye riſe again in glory. Lo, I have ſaid it, and who ſhall reverſe it? Ye ſhall ſee me face to face, and be with me where I am, and behold my glory. For I will be glorified in my Saints and admired in all them that believe; and all fleſh ſhall know that I have loved ye. For I will make ye the inſtances of my Grace, in whom the whole world ſhall ſee, how unutterably the Almighty God can advance the poor worm's meat,

and

and duſt of the ground And the deſpiſers ſhall behold and wonder and periſh: for they ſhall be witneſſes to the riches of my Magnificence, and exceeding greatneſs of my power. They ſhall go away into everlaſting puniſhment, but ye into life everlaſting.

For no ſooner ſhall their doom be paſt, but the bench ſhall riſe, and the Judge ſhall return with all his glorious train, with ſound of trumpet, and ſhouts incredible ſhall He aſcend, and ſhall lead ye to your Father's houſe. Then ſhall the Triumphal Arches lift up their heads, and the everlaſting gates ſtand open, and the heavens ſhall receive ye all, and ſo ſhall ye be ever with the Lord. And now will I rejoice over ye with ſinging, and reſt in my love: and heaven ſhall ring with joys and acclamations, becauſe I have received ye ſafe and ſound.

And in that day ye ſhall know I am a rewarder of them that diligently ſeek me; and that I did record your words, and bottle your tears, and tell your wandrings and keep an account, even to a cup of cold water of whatever ye ſaid or did for my Name. Ye ſhall ſurely find that nothing is loſt: but ye ſhall have full meaſure preſſed down and running over. thouſands of years in Paradiſe for the leaſt good thought or word; and then the reckoning ſhall begin again, till arithmatic be nonpluſt. For ye ſhall be ſwallowed up in a bleſſed Eternity, and the doors of heaven ſhall be ſhut upon ye, and there ſhall be no more going out.

The glorious choir of mine holy angels, the goodly fellowſhip of my bleſſed prophets, the happy ſociety of triumphant apoſtles, the royal hoſts of victorious martyrs, theſe ſhall be your companions for ever. And ye ſhall come in white robes, with palms in your hands, every one having the harps of God, and golden vials full of odours. and ſhall caſt your crowns before me, and ſtrike in with the multitudes of the heavenly hoſt, glorifying God; and ſaying, hallelujah, the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth: bleſſing, &c.

In ſhort I will make ye equal to the Angels of God, and ye ſhall be the everlaſting trumpets of my praiſe: ye ſhall be abundantly ſatisfied with the fatneſs of my houſe, and I will make ye drink of the rivers of my pleaſures. Ye ſhall be an eternal excellency, and if God can die, and eternity run out; then, and not elſe, ſhall your joys expire. And ye ſhall be the veſſels of my glory, whoſe bleſſed uſe ſhall be to receive the overflowings of my goodneſs, to have mine infinite love and glory poured into ye brimful, and running over for evermore. The Lord ſhall count, when he writeth up the people; ſurely they are my children. I do not only require you to be mine if ye would have me to be for ye; but I do promiſe to make ye mine; and to work in ye the graces and duties which I require of ye, I will circumciſe your hearts to love me. I will take out the heart of ſtone, my laws will I write within ye. Yet ye muſt know I will be ſought unto for theſe things, and as ever ye expect to partake of the mercies, I charge ye to lie at the pool, and wait

for my Spirit, and be diligent in the uſe of means. I do not treat ye according to the rigour of the old terms, I ſhall not ſtand upon ſatisfaction at your hands. I have received a ranſom, and do only expect your acceptance. Walk before me, and be upright: both the faith and obedience that I require of ye, are mine own gifts.

I require you to accept my Son by believing; but I will *give* ye an hand to take him, and to ſubmit to, and obey him: but I *muſt* and *will guide* your hand write after him, and cauſe you to walk in my ſtatutes. I will take ye by the arms, and teach ye to go; I will order your ſteps, yea, thoſe things will I accept of ye, as the graces and actions of a religious life, which, viewed in the ſtrictneſs of my juſtice, and as mixed with ſin, would deſerve eternal death. Grace! grace! Amen.

THE

THE VOICE OF THE REDEEMED.

AMEN, Hallelujah! *Be it to thy ſervants according to thy word. But what are we, and what is our father's houſe, that thou haſt brought us hitherto? And now, O Lord God, what ſhall thy ſervants ſay unto thee? for we are ſilenced with wonder, and muſt ſit down in aſtoniſhment, for we cannot utter the leaſt tittle of thy praiſes: what meaneth the height of this ſtrange love? And whence is thus unto us, that the Lord of heaven and earth ſhould condeſcend to enter into covenant with his duſt, and take into his boſom the viperous brood, that have ſo often ſpit their venom in his face? We are not worthy to be as the handmaids to waſh the feet of the ſervants of our Lord, how much leſs to be thy ſons and heirs, and to be made partakers of all theſe bleſſed liberties and privileges, which thou haſt ſettled upon us? But for thy goodneſs ſake, and according to thine own heart, haſt thou done all theſe great things. Even ſo Father, becauſe ſo it ſeemed good in thy ſight.*

Wherefore thou art great, O God, for there is none like thee, neither is there any God beſides, Sam. vii. 18. *to the end. And what nation on earth is like thy people, whom God went to redeem for a people to Himſelf, and to make Him a Name, and to do for them great things and*

terrible? For Thou haſt confirmed them to Thyſelf, to be a people unto Thee for ever, and Thou Lord art become their God: wonder O heavens, and be moved, O earth, at this great thing, Rev. xxi. 4. *For behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they ſhall be his people, and God himſelf ſhall be with them, and be their God. Be aſtoniſhed and raviſhed with wonder, for the infinite breach is made up: the offender is received, and God and man reconciled, and a covenant of peace entered, and heaven and earth are all agreed upon the terms, and have ſtruck their hands, and ſealed the indentures. O happy concluſion! O bleſſed conjunction! Shall the ſtars dwell with the duſt? Or the wide diſtant poles be brought to mutual embraces and cohabitation? But there the diſtance of the terms is infinitely greater. Rejoice, O angels, ſhout, O ſeraphims. O all ye friends of the bridegroom prepare an epithalamium, be ready with the marriage ſong. Lo, here is the wonder of eternity. For* JEHOVAH *hath betrothed Himſelf* for ever *to his hopeleſs captives, and owns the marriage before all the world and is become one with us, and we with Him. He hath bequeathed to us the precious things of heaven above, and the precious things of the earth beneath, with the fulneſs thereof, and hath kept nothing from us.*

And now, O Lord, Thou art God, and thy words be true, and Thou haſt promiſed this goodneſs to thy ſervants, and haſt left us nothing to aſk at thy hands, but what Thou haſt already freely granted. Only the word which Thou haſt ſpoken concerning thy ſervants, eſtabliſh it for ever, and do as Thou haſt ſaid, and let thy Name be magnified for ever, ſaying the Lord of Hoſts, He is the God of Iſrael

Amen, HALLELUJAH!